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# Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08
FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 SP-02 STR-04 TRSE-00
LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 AGRE-00 INT-05 DLOS-06 SAL-01
L-03 OES-06 /071 W
----------270505Z 057471 /11
R 261730Z JAN 77
FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2868
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 3033
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
USMISSION NATO
SHAPE

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EFIS, PLOS, EC
SUBJECT: THIRD COUNTRY FISHING IN EC WATERS

REF: (A) EC BRUSSELS 633, (B) EC BRUSSELS 546

1. THE EC HAS REACHED AGREEMENT IN PRINCPLE ON THE ISSU-
ANCE OF 38 LICENSES TO PERMIT EASTERN EUROPEAN FISHING
VESSELS TO OPERATE IN EC WATERS UNTIL MARCH 31, 1977. OF
THESE, ONLY 27 CAN ENGAGE IN FISHING OPERATIONS AT THE SAME
TIME. THE SOVIET UNION IS TO GET 27 LICENSES (AND PERMIS-
STION FOR 17 VESSELS TO FISH SIMULTANEOUSLY), THE GDR SIX
LICENSES AND POLAND FIVE. AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE HAS
ALSO BEEN REACHED THAT, AS AN INTERIM MEASURE, THESE LICENSES
WILL BE ISSUED IN THE NAME OF THE COMMUNITY BY THE COUNCIL
PRESIDENCY COUNTRY (THE UK) AND WOULD COVER ALL OF THE NEW
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200-MILE FISHING ZONES OVER WHICH THE EC EXERCISES
FISHING MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY IN THE ATLANTIC AND THE
NORTH SEA REGARDLESS OF THE ICES ZONE CONCERNED OR THE
EC MEMBER COASTAL STATE IN WHOSE WATERS FISHING
ACTUALLY TAKES PLACE.

2. AN EC COMMISSION OFFICIAL CONCERNED WITH FISHERIES IN

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DG I SAID THAT WHILE AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED IN PRINCIPLE ON THE COUNCIL REGULATION ON LICENSING AND CONTROL PROCEDURES (AS WELL AS THE COUNCIL COMMUNICATION TO THE THREE EASTERN EUROPEAN STATES), PROBLEMS HAVE BEEN ENCOUNTERED IN THE DELICATE JOB OF DRAFTING THE TEXT IN A MANNER WHICH GIVES THE UK THE NECESSARY AUTHORITY WITHOUT DETRACTING FROM COMMUNITY COMPETENCE OVER FISHING. HOPEFULLY THE REGULATION WILL STILL BE ISSUED LATER THIS WEEK. THESE DIFFICULTIES WERE APPARENTLY THE PRIMARY REASON WHY THE EC DECIDED TO DROP THE IDEA OF HAVING DIFFERENT STATES ISSUE LICENSES FOR DIFFERENT ICES ZONES AS REPORTED REF A. THIS COMMISSION OFFICIAL SAID THAT IN ORDER TO REDUCE THE IMPRESSION THAT THE EC IS "PICKING ON" THE EASTERN EUROPEAN STATES,THE EC WILL PROBABLY PASS A SIMILAR REGULATION IN ABOUT TWO WEEKS SUBJECTING ALL OTHER STATES WHICH HAVE BEEN PERMITTED TO FISH IN EC WATERS ON AN INTERIM BASIS (INCLUDING THE US) TO A SIMILAR LICENSING SYSTEM. HE NOTED THAT THE LICENSING MEASURES ORIGINALLY PROPOSED BY THE COMMISSION (AND AIMED AT THE EASTERN EUROPEAN FISHING VESSELS) HAVE BEEN GREATLY SIMPLIFIED AND WOULD PROBABLY BE MADE EVEN LESS ONEROUS FOR WESTERN THIRD-COUNTRY FISHERMEN.

3. OUR COMMISSION SOURCE SAID THAT EFFORTS ARE STILL BEING MADE TO RECONCILE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN EC MEMBER STATES IN REGARD TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE PROPOSED COUNCIL REGULATION PROVIDING INTERIM FISHERY CONSERVATION MEASURES WHICH WOULD APPLY TO FISHING IN EC WATERS
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BY BOTH MEMBER STATES AND THIRD COUNTRIES. IT IS HOPED THAT SUFFICIENT PROGRESS WILL BE MADE TO PERMIT APPROVAL OF THIS REGULATION BY THE FEBRUARY 8 COUNCIL MEETING OF THE EC FOREIGN MINISTERS.

4. AN OFFICIAL OF THE EC COUNCIL SECRETARIAT TOLD THE MISSION THAT THE MOST URGENT TASK FACING THE EC IS TO MAKE PROGRESS ON THE INTERIM INTERNAL FISHERY REGIME TO REPLCE THE "STANDFAST" ARRANGMENT APPROVED BY THE DECEMBER 20 COUNCIL MEETING WHICH IS SCHEDULED TO EXPIRE FEBRUARY 8 (REF B). HE SAID THAT CONSIDERATION IS BEING GIVEN TO RESTRICTING THIRD COUNTRY FISHING (LARGELY EASTERN EUROPEAN) WITHIN 50 MILES OF THE UK AND IRELAND. SUCH A RESTRICTION WOULD HELP OFFSET THE ADVERSE DOMESTIC IMPACT OF RELINQUISHMENT BY THESE TWO STATES OF THEIR CLAIMS TO A 50 MILE EXCLUSIVE FISHING ZONE AND WOULD AFFECT NEGOTIATIONS WITH ICELAND, NORWAY AND OTHER STATES INTERESTED IN EC WATERS. THESE MATTERS, AS WELL AS THE US-EC GIFA, OUR SOURCE NOTED,

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ARE TO BE TAKEN UP AT THE FEBRUARY 8 SESSION OF THE
EC COUNCIL OF FOREIGN MINISTERS. HINTON

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# Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X
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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED
**Concepts:** FISHING RIGHTS, FOREIGN INTEREST REPRESENTATION, FISHING AGREEMENTS
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
**Decaption Note:**
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009
**Disposition Event:**
**Disposition History:** n/a
**Disposition Reason:**
**Disposition Remarks:**
**Document Number:** 1977ECBRU00809
**Document Source:** CORE
**Document Unique ID:** 00
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**Film Number:** D770029-0212
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**Office:** ACTION EUR
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a
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**Page Count:** 3
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**Reference:** 77 EC BRUSSELS 633, 77 EC BRUSSELS 546
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**Review Exemptions:** n/a
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**Status:** NATIVE
**Subject:** THIRD COUNTRY FISHING IN EC WATERS
**TAGS:** EFIS, PLOS, EEC
**To:** STATE
**Type:** TE
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